

**Claims**

1. A method for the treatment of an individual having a condition characterised by abnormal myocardial cell  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$  or  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ion levels, said method comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of one or more  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonists to said individual.
2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the condition is selected from the group consisting of heart failure, and myocardial hypertrophy.
3. A method for the treatment of an individual suffering from or susceptible to heart failure or myocardial hypertrophy, said method comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of one or more  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonists to said individual.
4. The method according to claim 3 wherein the individual is an individual having one or more clinical symptoms of heart failure or myocardial hypertrophy.
5. The method according to claim 3 wherein the  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonist is selected from the group consisting of arylethanolamines, aryloxypropanolamines, trimetoquinols.
6. The method according to claim 3 wherein the  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonist is selected from the group consisting of BRL37344, BRL 35135, BRL 26830, BRL 26830A, BRL 35113, ZD7114, CGP12177, CGP 12177A, CGP-20712A, CL316243, ICI07114, ICI215001, ICI 201651, BRL35135A, BRL28410, N-5984, (R)-N-[4-[2-[[2-Hydroxy-2-(pyridin-3-yl)ethyl]amino]ethyl]phenyl]-4-[4-(4-trifluoro-methylphenyl)thiazol-2-yl]benzenesulfonamide (L-796568), (R)-N-[4-[2-[[2-hydroxy-2-(3-pyridinyl)-ethyl]amino]ethyl]phenyl]-1-(4-octylthiazol-2-yl)-5-indolinesulfonamide (L-755507), L-770,644, L-766,892, L-757,793, L-796568, LY-377604, Ro 40-2148, SB-220646, SB-226552, SB-251023, SB-262552, SR 58306, SR 58375, SR 58339, SR 58611, SR 58611A, SR 59119A, GR-265261-X, AD-9677, and agonists of the series 2-(3-indolyl)alkylamino-1-(3-chlorophenyl)ethanols.
7. The method according to claim 3 wherein the  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonist is BRL37344.
8. The method according to claim 3 wherein the  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonist further comprises  $\beta_1$  antagonist activity and or further comprises  $\beta_2$  antagonist activity.
9. The method according to claim 3 further comprising administering one or more  $\beta$  blockers to said individual.
10. The method according to claim 9 wherein the  $\beta$  blocker is nadolol.

11. The method according to claim 9 wherein the  $\beta$  blocker is a  $\beta_1$  and/or  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor antagonist.
12. The method according to claim 9 wherein the  $\beta$  blocker is administered to said individual prior to, simultaneously with or subsequent to administration of the one or more  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonists.
13. The method according to claim 3 further comprising at least partially stabilizing said individual prior to administration of said  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonist.
14. The method according to claim 13 wherein said stabilizing comprises treatment with one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of ACE-inhibitors, aldosterone antagonists and  $\beta$  adrenoceptor antagonists.
15. A method for treatment of a condition characterised by abnormally high myocardial cell  $\text{Na}^+$  ion level, said method comprising administration to an individual having said condition of a therapeutically effective amount of one or more  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonists.
16. The method according to claim 15 wherein said condition characterised by abnormally high myocardial cell  $\text{Na}^+$  ion level is selected from the group consisting of heart failure, myocardial hypertrophy, and diabetic cardiomyopathy.
17. Use of one or more  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonists for the manufacture of a medicament for treatment of an individual having a condition characterised by abnormal myocardial cell  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$  or  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ion levels.
18. One or more  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonists for use in the treatment of an individual having a condition characterised by abnormal myocardial cell  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$  or  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ion levels.
19. Use of one or more  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonists for the manufacture of a medicament for treatment of an individual suffering from or susceptible to heart failure or myocardial hypertrophy.
20. One or more  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonists for use in the treatment of an individual suffering from or susceptible to heart failure or myocardial hypertrophy.
21. A pharmaceutical composition for use in the treatment of an individual having a condition characterised by abnormal myocardial cell  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$  or  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ion levels, the composition comprising one or more  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonists together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvants, excipients and/or carriers.
22. A pharmaceutical composition for use in the treatment of an individual suffering from or susceptible to heart failure or myocardial hypertrophy, the composition comprising one or more  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonists together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvants, excipients and/or carriers.

23. A pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonists and one or more  $\beta_1$  and/or  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor antagonists, together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvants, excipients and/or carriers.

24. A method for the extrusion of  $\text{Na}^+$  from a myocardial cell or cells, the method comprising contacting said cell(s) with one or more  $\beta_3$  adrenoceptor agonist(s).

25. The method according to claim 24 wherein said method comprises  $\text{Na},\text{K}$  pump stimulation.